

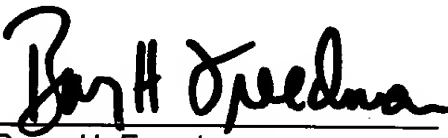
**Remarks**

The Office Draftsman is being requested to augment Fig. 5b by adding two dashed arrows which were inadvertently omitted. These arrows show the path that packets take as they traverse a network of interconnected nodes. The missing arrows would be easily discerned by a person skilled in the art, and thus do not constitute new matter.

Claim 2 has been amended to correct the typographical error in the numbering of the subparagraphs contained within that claim.

Claim 9 has been amended to remove an unnecessary limitation. The substance of that limitation has been included in a new Claim 13 which depends from amended Claim 9.

Respectfully,  
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By   
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Date: **August 15, 2000**

Att.  
1 Red-Inked Print